should be considered. It was also decided that a suggestion may be given to the Ministry of Agriculture that they should concentrate on import of finished fertilisers primarily in non-monsoon periods.

Optimum profit limit for private sector connected with ancillary activities of the Railways

1769. SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fixed the optimum limit for profit of the private sector investors connected with ancillary activities of the Railways;

(b) if so, what is the said limit; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in negative, what are the reasons for not fixing the limit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) Department of Railways being a Public Utility Department follows the principle of competitive tendering in respect of the various purchases made by them. No limit of profit as such is fixed and cases are dealt with on merits. In case the rate quoted is considered high, negotiations are conducted to bring down the prices.

Railway Fares and Freights

1770. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount collected by Railways through hike in railway fares and freights year-wise from 1982-83 to 1985-86; and

(b) the percentage of rise in railway fares from 1982-83 to 1985-86?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Accounts maintained on the railways do not identify the money collected separately through hike in railway fares and freights during any accounting period.

(b) The approximate percentage rise in railway fares is as under:

1982-83	17.5
1983-84	13.0
1984-85	7.7
1985-86	8.6

Withdrawal of the flights by the foreign airlnes from Calcutta

1771. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the foreign airlines which have decided to withdraw their flights from Calcutta airport;

(b) what are the reasons for which they are withdrawing these flights from Calcutta; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) British Airways had announced some time back their decision to withdraw their once-weekly Calcutta fight with effect from 1st December, 1985. Union of Burma Airways have also suspended their once-weekly Calcutta Rangoon service recently. These decisions are apparently based on commercial grounds.

Since air operations are governed by considerations of mutual commercial benefits, the Government cannot direct any foreign airline to operate on desired points routes.

Expenditure on expansion and modernisation of the International Airports

1772. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state what is the total expenditure incurred for expansion and modernisation of Calcutta, Bombay, Delhi and Madras airports during the Fifth and Sixth Five Year Plan periods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): The total expenditure incurred on expansion and modernisation of Calcutta, Bombay, Delhi and Madras Airports during the Fifth Five